CHECKLIST What You Need to Take When You Leave

Identification
Driver's license
Child's birth certificate
Your birth certificate
Money
Lease, rental agreement, house deed
Bank books
Checkbooks
Insurance papers
House and car keys
Medications
Small saleable objects
Address book
Pictures
Medical records (all family members)
Social Security card
Welfare identification
School records
Work permits
Green card
Passport
Divorce papers
Jewelry
Child's small toys

DSS Nondiscrimination Policy:

Department of Social Services (DSS) staff, programs and policies must not discriminate against clients or applicants for services because of race, color, sex, age, disability, religion and national origin. To file a complaint of discrimination write: DSS Division of Legal Services, 700 Governors Drive, Pierre, SD 57501-2291 or call: (605) 773-3305. If you have a question regarding program services, please contact your nearest DSS office.

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Victims Call for Help

Aberdeen
Lutheran Social Services
Safe Harbor
Belle Fourche
Northern Hills Crisis Outreach584-3560
Brookings
Domestic Abuse Shelter 692-7233 or 1-888-643-5400
Burke
Gregory County Shelter 775-2626 or 1-800-658-3486
Chamberlain
Missouri Valley Crisis 734-5155 or 1-877-513-2361
Custer
Women Escaping a Violent Environment 1-800-424-3574
Deadwood
Northern Hills Crisis Outreach
Eagle Butte
Sacred Heart Women's Shelter 964-6026
Faith
Crisis Intervention Outreach 967-2919 or 739-1123
Flandreau
Wholeness Center
Ft. Thompson Project Safe
Hot Springs
Women Escaping a Violent Environment1-800-424-3574
Huron YWCA Family Violence Program352-4952
Kyle Oglala Sioux Tribe Victims Assistance455-2988
Cangleska
Lake Andes
Native American Women's Health
Education Resource Center
Lead
Northern Hills Crisis Outreach 584-3560
Lemmon
Communities Against Violence and Abuse374-5823
Lower Brule
Family Circle Crisis Center473-0220
Madison
House of Hope256-6188 or 270-9911
Martin
People Against Violence and Emotional Stress685-5175
Mission
Watchful Home856-2189
White Buffalo Calf Woman Society856-2317
Mitchell
Area Safehouse
Mobridge
Bridges Against Domestic Violence845-2110

Pierre	
Missouri Shores Domestic	
Violence Center	-696-7187
Pine Ridge	
Cangleska, Inc.	867-1035
Oglala Sioux Tribe Victims Assistance	867-5556
Rapid City	
Youth and Family Services	
Working Against Violence1-888-	-716-9284
Standing Strong Woman House	
"Ohitika Najin Win Oti"	388-3778
Redfield	
Family Crisis Center	472-3097
Sioux Falls	
Rape and Domestic Abuse Center	
or 877-462-7474 or (after hours)	
Children's Inn	
Catholic Family Services	988-3775
Lutheran Social Services 357-0100 or 1-800-	
"Mita Maske Ti Ki" (My Sister Friends' House) .	731-1950
Sisseton	
Women's Circle	698-4129
Spearfish	
Victims of Violence Intervention Program	642-7825
Sturgis	
Crisis Intervention Shelter Service	347-0050
Vermillion	
Coalition Against Domestic Violence	624-5311
Watertown	
Women's Resource Center	886-4300
Lutheran Social Services	882-2740
Winner	
Resource Center for Families	842-2736
Yankton	
Women's Shelter	665-1204
Ft. Yates, ND	
Tender Hearts1-888-	-800-9936

For More Information Call ...

South Dakota Domestic Abuse Hotline: 1-800-430-SAFE

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE

Hearing Impaired: 1-800-787-3224

Domestic Violence Safety Plan



South Dakota
Domestic Abuse Hotline
1-800-430-SAFE

Department of Social Services

Division of Adult Services & Aging

You have a right to be safe!

Safety During an Explosive Incident

- If an argument seems unavoidable, try to have it in a room or area that has access to an exit and not in the bathroom, kitchen or anywhere near weapons.
- Practice getting out of your home safely.
 Identify which doors, windows, elevator or stairwell would be best.
- Have a packed bag ready and keep it in an undisclosed but accessible place in order to leave quickly.
- Identify a neighbor you can tell about the violence and ask that they call the police if they hear a disturbance coming from your home.
- Devise a code word to use with your children, family, friends and neighbors when you need the police.
- Decide and plan for where you will go if you have to leave home (even if you don't think you will need to).
- Use your own instincts and judgment. If the situation is very dangerous, consider giving the abuser what he wants to calm him down. You have the right to protect yourself until you are out of danger.

Safety When Preparing to Leave

- Open a savings account in your own name to start to establish or increase your independence. Think of other ways in which you can increase your independence.
- Leave money, an extra set of keys, copies of important documents and extra clothes with someone you trust so you can leave quickly.
- Determine who would let you stay with them or lend you some money.
- Keep the shelter phone number close at hand and keep some change or a calling card on you at all times for emergency phone calls.
- Review your safety plan as often as possible in order to plan the safest way to leave your batterer.

Teens in a Violent Dating Relationship

- Decide which friend, teacher, relative or police officer you can tell.
- Contact an advocate at the court to decide how to obtain a protective order and make a safety plan.

Safety in Your Own Home

- Change the locks on your doors as soon as possible. Buy additional lock and safety devices to secure your windows.
- Discuss a safety plan with your children for when you are not with them.
- Inform your child's school, day care, etc., about who has permission to pick up your child.
- Inform neighbors and landlord that your partner no longer lives with you and that they should call the police if they see him near your home.
- Never call the abuser from your home.
 If he has caller I.D., he may be able to locate your residence.

Safety With a Protective Order

- Keep your protective order on you at all times. (When you change your purse, that should be the first thing that goes in it.)
- Call the police if your partner breaks the protective order.
- Think of alternative ways to keep safe if the police don't respond right away.
- Inform family, friends and neighbors that you have a protective order in effect.

Safety on the Job and in Public

- Decide who at work you will inform of your situation. This should include office building security. (Provide a picture of your batterer if possible.)
- Arrange to have someone screen your telephone calls if possible.
- Devise a safety plan for when you leave work. Have someone escort you to your car, bus or train. Use a variety of routes to go home if possible.
 Think about what to do if something happened while going home.

Your Safety and Emotional Health

- If you are thinking of returning to a potentially abusive situation, discuss an alternative plan with someone you trust.
- If you have to communicate with your partner, determine the safest method.
- Have positive thoughts about yourself and be assertive with others about your needs.
- Read books, articles and poems to help you feel stronger.
- Attend a women's victim's support group for at least two weeks to gain support from others and learn more about yourself and the relationship.

^{*} Leaving your batterer is the most dangerous time.